

Good News:

September 2015

60p



**“You crown the year with your goodness
You give us the fruits of the earth
Grant that we may use them to your glory
To the relief of those in need and our wellbeing”**

United Benefice of Oakham. Ministry is carried out by teams of clergy and laity working within, the Christian communities in each of the Parishes.

Team Rector :	Canon Lee Francis-Dehqani	722108
Asst. Priest:	Rev. Hildred Crowther	767779
Team Vicars:	Rev. Janet Tebby 01664	474096
	Rev Canon Julie Hutchinson	868816
Curate:	Rev. Dominic Coad	770024
Readers:	Mr Vyvyan Wainwright.	759157
	Mr David Pattinson	723884
	Mr Alan Rudge	755570
Parish Evangelists:	Jenni Duffy	720064
	Mrs Gail Rudge	755570
Lay Pastoral Minister	Madeleine Morris	868418
Team Administrator:	Mrs Janine Weaver	724007
Oakham School:	Rev. Alexander Aldous	

We are delighted to share sacramental ministry with retired Priests who serve our Parishes, the Deanery and the Diocese in many ways.

Benefice Magazine

Editor: David Dyer, Culm House, 22,Nene Cres Oakham. Tel. 771564
email culmhouse@aol.com

Reps.

Hambleton:	Louise Everett	Braunston:	
Langham:	Mrs Margaret Foot	Brooke:	Mrs Anne Grimmer
Oakham:	Mrs A Austen	Eggleton:	Mr N Ashton.

Material to the Editor please by the **15th** of each month except July. There is a pigeonhole for contributions in the Benefice office or you can email the Editor.

Contributors who word process are asked to use Times New Roman and font 16. This will save us preparation time.

Lay members of the Team in each Parish

Oakham All Saints:

Churchwardens:	Mrs Alison Long	771338
	Ann Blackett	724094
PCC Secretary:	D Ufton	720237
PCC Treasurer:	Mr P Hill	724529
Vergers	Brenda Weatherhogg (Team Leader)	722482

Langham St Peter and St Paul

Churchwardens:	Mrs Hilary Knight	757435
	Mrs D Sowter	723533
PCC Secretary:	Mrs Susan Holford	723532
PCC Treasurer:	Mrs J Morris	724032

Ashwell St Mary

Churchwardens:	Mrs S. Farr	723743
	Mrs J Harvey	759204
PCC Secretary:	Louise Keeley	722713
PCC Treasurer:	Mrs Susan Smith	757093

Braunston All Saints

Churchwardens	R Anderson	774388
	S Willetts	722150
PCC Secretary:	Not yet filled	
PCC Treasurer:	Mrs P Anderson	774388

Brooke St Peter

Churchwarden:	Mary Brooks	
P.CC. Secretary:	Mrs S Tyers	
PCC Treasurer:	Mr T Greer	770574

Egleton St Edmund.

Churchwardens:	Mrs S Boulton	723505
PCC Secretary:	Mrs J Starling	720004
PCC Treasurer:	Mr K Starling	720004

Hambleton St Andrew

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	Mrs G Griffin	
PCC Secretary:	Mrs M Hall	723576
PCC Treasurer:	Mr J Price	

Market Overton

Churchwardens:	Mrs J. Fisher-Robins	723266
	Mrs S. Morris	767212
PCC Treasurer	Antonia Profitt	768318

Teigh

Churchwardens:	Mrs A. Morley	787497
	Mrs V. Owen	787681
PCC Secretary	Mrs A. Morley	787497
PCC Treasurer	Mr A. Peel	01664 474424

Whissendine

Churchwardens:	Mr P. Raymond	01664 474605
	Mr J. Townsend	01664 474392
PCC Secretary:	Mrs L. Arnold	01664 474645
PCC Treasurer	Mr A Peel.	01664 474424

Please would PCC secretaries let the Editor (771564) know as soon as changes in any part of the above information are necessary.

Robin writes.....

We have just returned from a holiday in Sicily. We flew into Palermo by the kind offices of the no frills Irish Airline. It was dark. Our transport collected us and we set off westwards. Our villa (sounds so grand) was in the hills near Castellammare del Golfo. The drive up to the villa changed from a gentle slope to a steep gradient where the car needed to charge up like a cat out of the bag. The sound of acceleration was really exciting.

The town of Castellammare was a touristy place. There was a small marine, where the boats were mostly ribs. (I had to ask as well, - it means they have an engine rather than sail.) To sit beside the water in the morning having breakfast of orange juice and croissants was bliss.

One day we travelled to Erice, perched on the top of Monte San Giuliano. It has very ancient origins and is laid out in a triangular plan. The town has preserved its medieval character with fine city walls, paved streets, stone houses, small squares and numerous churches. That day the clouds were below rather than above us. It was a weird but exciting feeling. At San Pietro we watched a wedding party arriving in their finery and the women wearing stilts; the heels were so high and the street was cobbled. It was such a beautiful place.

One of the places we explored was Selinunte, and it was a shock to see the Acropolis there. It was covered in scaffolding as the ruins are being strengthened. It used to be surrounded by colossal stone walls 3 metres high, with two gates, the larger one on the north side. This area contained the public buildings and temples all facing east. From the southern end are the space ruins of Temples; there were about 7 of them.

We loved exploring and finding differences in places and people: the streets of Trapani on a Saturday evening, with pedestrians meeting and greeting their friends. We could always eat outside, and the restaurants were different and exciting.

Having Italian speakers meant we could really be part of the scene. Some of the churches we visited were just beautiful. On Saturday evening we found the church full, with the Mass for Sunday on the Saturday evening. I do not think that will be adopted by Oakham team as yet. The comforting thing about holidays is that people are basically the same, with the same hopes and fears and the security of family all enclosed in the blanket of our faith.

Robin



OAKHAM AND BRAUNSTON M.U.

We ranged between the sublime and the ridiculous at the “Member Own” meeting this week. The theme was, loosely, SUMMERTIME, and we made an appropriate start with W.H. Davies’ reminder to take time to stand and stare.

George Herbert’s famous “Love bade me welcome” was recited from memory, giving us opportunity to reflect on this most substantial of all themes.

Willie Wriggle’s fight followed. Poor Willie didn’t know which end of himself was which, when he got cut in two. The good end and the bad end had to fight it out, once the gauntlet was thrown down. This particular gauntlet was entitled “The upper hand” - - - - -

Next came a poem about a much treasured moth-eaten teddy bear. The ridiculous element was the story of the two teddies, who went to the park.

The seventeenth century Nun’s Prayer was very apt. It urged us to talk less, and she also prayed “Do not make me a Saint. Some of them are so hard to live with”. Several thought-provoking statements were contributed. “Anyone who can continue to see beauty never grows old”, and “Faith is taking the first step, even when you can’t see the whole staircase”, are two examples.

Returning to the summer theme, we had a reading for 25th June. This reminded us of God’s friendship, which we can summon at will. It concluded with the invitation, “Think of me in the little things of everyday life”. This thought was also echoed by another member who kindly gave us each a card, which included the inscription “God is closer than we think. He is never farther than a prayer away”. Later we were reminded of this when we heard the poem about the Maid-of-all-work: “Lord of all pots and pans and things”.

Then we had the jolly “Cucumber Kitty”, all the way from Sydney. She was “so cool and so pretty. She snaps her fingers at the heat”.

Historical facts about St, Swithen were a very timely contribution, plus a couple of amusing extracts from the book “I wish I’d said that”.

Delicious scones with strawberries and cream rounded off our summer afternoon. We do not have a MU meeting in August. In September, instead of the customary meeting in the Church Hall, we are much encouraged to attend the MU Diocesan Festival at Peterborough Cathedral, at 3 p.m., on Saturday, 12th September.



Christian Aid Week 2015

The results of our collections through eight of our local churches are recorded below.

The total this year has declined by only £100, but this is because the shortfall in All Saints Oakham has been overcome by good results in other smaller churches, notably Egleton.

Our thanks to all who have responded and supported Christian Aid in its on going work across the world. Our own figures would be better if more volunteers join our house-to house efforts for just one week in May.

	£	
All Saints Oakham	843	10
Braunston	426	55
Brooke	125	60
Egleton	350	27
Langham	81	00
Methodists	1391	00
Baptists	277	40
Knossington	1047	45
	4542	37

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FRIENDS' OUTING TO TOLETHORPE HALL

On 25th. October, 1415 Henry V won the battle of Agincourt. On 11th. July, 2015 the Friends of All Saints watched Shakespeare's "Henry V" at Tolethorpe Hall. Shakespeare's contemporary Robert Browne of Tolethorpe might not have approved of such a use of time, for he was a Puritan, but the Stamford Shakespeare Company has been staging performances there for 39 years now, and successfully.

I noted several 1960s sports cars together and a Rolls Royce, but I thank rather our own drivers, and particularly the Kirtlands for organising the excursion to Rutland's further reaches for a matinee performance with a packed house. With Agincourt as the climax, Henry V's reign was performed "straight", without irony or hamming, or more poking fun at the French or other Britons than appears in the play's text. Rather, Shakespeare provides the English with self-deprecation as well as patriotism, pathos as well as banter. Perhaps some found the Welshman Fluellen just too Welsh, but the actors spoke clearly and fluently.

So this year is the sixth-hundredth anniversary of the battle of Agincourt: it would be good next year to mark the four-hundredth anniversary of Shakespeare's death and the fortieth anniversary of the Stamford Shakespeare Company's use of Tolethorpe Hall in similar vein.

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Rt Revd Donald Allister, Bishop of Peterborough
writes

New Every Morning

Lord Rose, the man who restored the fortunes of Marks and Spencer, recently completed a report on the leadership and management of the National Health Service. When interviewed about the task of leadership in an organisation, he said that the key is to ensure that it is always changing but without the staff suffering "change-fatigue."



Always changing, but no change-fatigue. That is how our churches should be. "What!" I hear howls of protest already. "There is too much change already!" "I'm not going to change!"

Let me try it this way, courtesy of the Old Testament Book of Lamentations:

***The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.***

We are happy to be reminded that God's love for us never ceases, that his mercy never ends, that his faithfulness is great. But the third line of that wonderful verse of Hebrew poetry matters too. God's love and mercy are ***new every morning***. Appropriate to that new day. Fitted afresh to our needs. Magnificently unchanged, but also wonderfully different. Reliable but delightfully new and alive.

Or there are the words on the lips of the resurrected Jesus in the Book of Revelation:

See, I am making all things new.

Or the simple piece of logic, that if we want our churches to grow we must be willing for them to change, because growth involves change. *No change, no growth* is just as true as the old slogan, *No cross, no crown*.

But how do we avoid change-fatigue? Simple: by being alive every morning to the Lord's new mercies, his fresh forgiveness, his constantly re-invented love. By catching the vision that with God the best is in the future not the past.

Here is my question and challenge for us all as we re-start after the summer holidays. How can we change and reinvent our churches, our worship, ourselves, in such a way that God's love becomes more real to those around us and his Church grows with new life?

+ Donald

Dear God,

So far today I've done alright:

I haven't gossiped; I haven't lost my temper; I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish or over indulgent; I'm very thankful for that.

But in a few minutes God, I'm going to have to get out of bed.

And from then on -

I'm going to need a lot more help.

Anon

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Braunston News

Welcome

The month starts with a joyful and long awaited bang as we welcome Rev. Canon Julie Hutchinson back to the Deanery and to our Benefice on September 1st.

Julie will be licensed at St Peter and St Paul Langham at 7.30pm on **Tuesday September 1st**. Details of that service are given under Langham News and it would be good to have a cohort from Braunston at the service.

Harvest

Our harvest celebrations will follow the pattern of last year with our normal communion service at 11am on Sunday 20th of September.

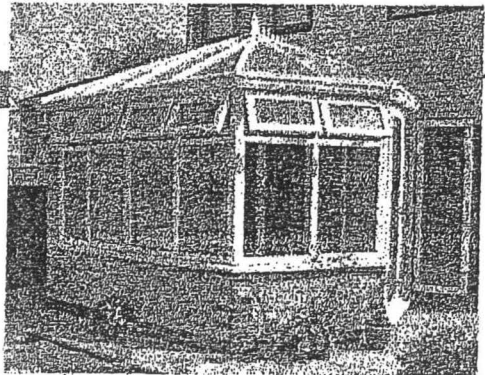
Gifts to decorate the church or to be presented during the service will be appreciated and decoration of the church will be on Saturday 19th.

The service will be followed by a **“bring and share”** lunch to which everyone is welcome.

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Braunston Harvest Celebrations

Harvest Festival Service
Sunday 20 September
11.00am

Bring and Share Lunch
in Church afterwards

ST PETER'S DAY IN BROOKE

June 28th was the Sabbath nearest to the date of the Patronal Festival and so Brooke celebrated in style. Friends from around the diocese were invited to join with our small congregation and so to make a special occasion of it.

Laudamus turned up in force and provided a wall of sound from the back of the church. Flowers nestled in every nook and cranny and the heady perfume combined with the summer sun to give a most exotic touch. Special thanks to all the ladies of the church who worked so hard.

The lessons were read by Bill Lamb and the organ was played by Kevin Slingsby and John Norris. This with the choir ensured a lively and inspirational sound.

The service was led by Rev Lee Francis-Dehqani. He always shakes one up by his thought provoking words and this was no exception. We were asked to consider why Churches were dedicated to a particular person or Saint. Taking us by surprise was the idea that Peter with all his uncertainties was not really the foundation but the fact of his declaration of Christ as the son of God and his words provided the rock upon which the church was founded. There is a curious comfort to be found in this glorious affirmation.

Then followed wine and refreshments and relaxed greetings of friends old and new and a rejoicing in the place in Brooke where it is possible to worship in peace and appreciate the beauty around.

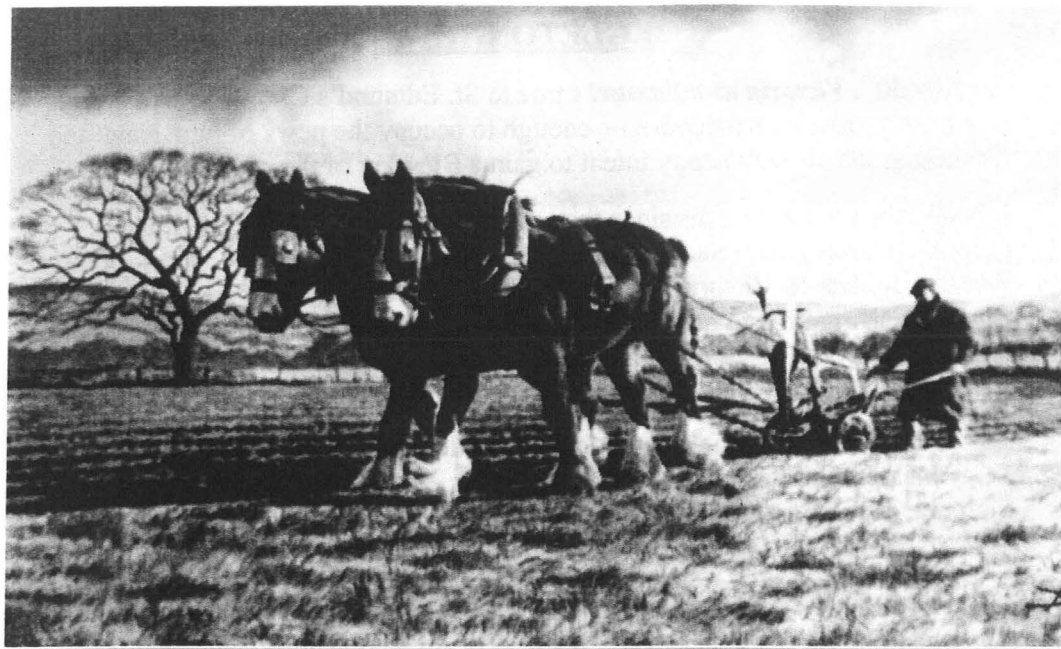
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ALL WELCOME AFTERWARDS FOR REFRESHMENTS

EGLETON NEWS

On July 30th, *Victoria and Samuel* came to St. Edmund's Church with a retinue numbering more than a hundred – enough to occupy the pews of both Nave and Chancel – and all with happy intent to gain a Blessing of their Marriage.

It is already several months since they married in the United States, home ground for bridegroom Samuel. On their return to Britain and to the environs of Rutland, so dear to Victoria and her family, the charming Bride chose to gain the Church's affirmation to her marriage, to beseech God's blessing on the precious Wedding Vows which, on an earlier day, she exchanged with Samuel!



But now, in "God's little acre of Egleton", Victoria and Samuel would declare them in the clear sight and the delighted earshot of all her nearest and dearest. A wise and proper omen of happy fulfilment for each one of them and, moreover, of a continuing contentment spreading through their kin and kith!.....Fait accompli, n'est ce pas?

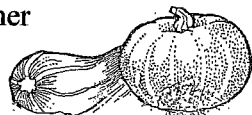
Ride and Stride – in the splendid interests of our Historic Churches Trust – is scheduled for September 12th; walking or running, cycling or motoring [the latest, additional, enlightened format for this noble exercise!] will surely entice a lot of athletes, plus car drivers and passengers all, into St. Edmund's embrace.



Both cordial welcome and encouraging word are assured – for each deserving Volunteer who includes Egleton in his/her progress – once he/she signs in!

Anticipation mounts at the approach of the **Reverend Julie**, our designated, new priest and pastor; with all the Benefice, we share the earnest and prayerful hope for her happiness as she pursues her vocation in the midst of our Parishes and within her family circle!

Harvest Festival in Egleton ? its DATE – verily, verily – is a moot point as this report is compiled. It could be in the EVENING of either September 27th or October 4th: resolution rests in a necessary collaboration – a s a p – with the imminent Revd. Julie!



At the advent of this newest era in our Benefice enterprise, these verses by Methodist minister-cum-poet **FRED PRATT GREEN** renew their relevance. I was introduced to them by a much admired churchman-cum-poet: both of us expressed the same regret – that we had not written them ourselves!

The Church of Christ, in every age, beset by change but Spirit led,
Must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.
Then let the servant Church arise, a caring Church that longs to be
A partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.

Neville Ashton

HAMBLETON NEWS

On Saturday, 27th June in St Andrew's Church, Hambleton, an Organ Recital and Summer Concert was held. **Robert Gower's** recital on the Church Organ was joined by performances from two very talented young musicians; **Katie Marshall** (Soprano) and **Gabriel Tufail-Smith** (violin). **Gail Griffin** organised the concert and catering for the event. Many villagers donated food and wine and as a result of their generosity, £795 was made for the Church and Village Hall Funds.

On Sunday 5th July, **Celia** and **Richard Foulkes** of Orchard House, Hambleton, hosted a Garden party in aid of the National Garden Scheme (NGS). £400 from the event was kindly donated to the Church and Village Hall Funds.

On Sunday, 19th July, St Andrew's Church saw two Baptisms which were both conducted by **Canon Lee Francis-Dehqani**. The first Baptism was of **Conrad Alexander Wagner** son of **Christian** and **Laura Wagner** and the second was of **Myla Rose Hughes** daughter of **Ian** and **Zoe Hughes**.

On Friday, 7th August the Wedding took place of **Hannah Brown** and **Ross Porter**. The Service was conducted by **Rev Dominic Coad** and **Araminta Mathias** and her team rang the bells.

Hambleton villagers are looking forward to welcoming our new vicar; **Julie Hutchinson** in September.

On Saturday, 12th September from 10am to 6pm the Annual Ride and Stride in support of Rutland's beautiful and historic churches will take place. Cyclists are invited to cycle around as many of the Rutland Churches as they can whilst raising money for the Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Trust. Half the sponsorship money raised will go to Hambleton's Church and Village Hall Funds. Please contact **Richard Foulkes** on 01572 722192 if you would like to join the Starburst Cycle Teams.

Langham News

Our main event in September is the Licensing of Julie Hutchinson in our church on the 1st. September We offer our warmest welcome to her and her husband, Philip, and hope they will be very happy in our five parishes. The service is at 7.30pm, with refreshments afterwards to give an opportunity to meet and chat. All are welcome.

There will be a number of dignitaries and clergy as well, so we look forward to a full congregation. Laudamus will be singing, with a band to accompany a few of the hymns.

Harvest Festival is on the 27th. The church wardens will be grateful for help with flowers and gifts.

"Tea at the Ritz" comes to Langham church on October 10th, from 3-6pm. We are privileged in that Miranda has found a space in her professional calendar in order to come and sing whilst we eat a delicious tea. If you have heard her superb singing in the past, you will want to come again; if not, it is really worth coming!

Another future date is November 14th, when there will be a church Barn Dance in the school for all to come and enjoy.

Songs of Praise in a garden was a highlight of August, complete with picnic and glorious sunshine. Even the neighbours enjoyed it.

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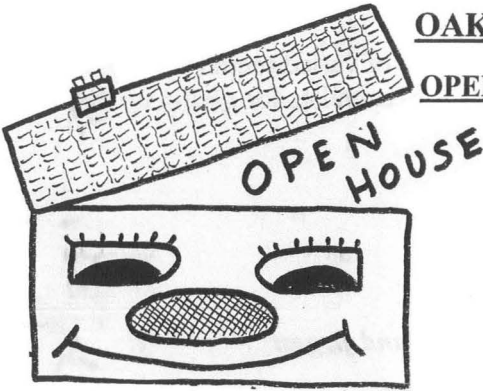
Tuesday, 15th September

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Between 10 a.m. and 12 noon



FROM OAKHAM PARISH CHURCH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

19th July *Harper Michelle Coleman*

"We welcome her into the fellowship of the church family"

Holy Matrimony

27th June *Andrew Chapman & Claire Tollington*

24th July *Luke Jones & Kate Moffat*

25th July *Nicholas Wilson & Lauren Pettitt*

1st August *Joseph Handford & Louise Nicholls*

8th August *Jamie Boyce & Gemma Ronzano*

"We wish them every happiness"



Burial Office in Church

16th July *Elizabeth Anne Samways*

20th July *Joan Bancroft Gilman*

21st July *Eveline Grace*

27th July *Ted Neal*

30th July *John Munton*

31st July *Pat Robin*



"May they rest in peace"

All Saints Oakham

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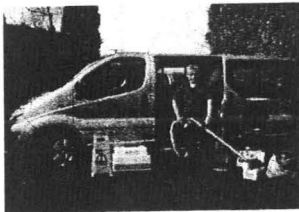
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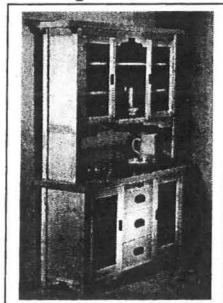
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Diary Dates Sept

Reg.	Date		
Mon.	t.t.o	2.00pm	Pram and Toddler Service All Saints Oakham
Tues		10.00am	Holy Communion All Saints Oakham
Wed		12 00	Service of Healing: Trinity Chapel All Saints. (1st Wed. only)
		1.30pm	Lunchtime Concert. All Saints Oakham. (Not on Dec 25 th or Jan 1 st)
Thur	t.t.o.	10.00am	Tiny Tots. All Saints Oakham
		12.15pm	CTO Prayer Meeting Trinity Chapel All Saints
Fri		10.00am	Holy Communion All Saints Oakham
Tue	1 st	7.30pm	Licensing of Rev.Canon Julie Hutchinson as Team Vicar St Peter and St. Paul Langham
Sun	6 th		Trinity 14
Sat	12 th	All Day	Ride and Stride. Proceeds support both Rutland Churches and our own local churches.
Sat	12 th	3.00pm	Mothers' Union Diocesan Festival: Peterborough Cathedral
Sun	13 th		Trinity 15.
Mon	14 th		Holy Cross Day
Tues	15 th	10.00am	Open House: 6 Cricket Lawns Oakham This is change of venue from that in the annual programme
Sun	20 th	11.00 6.00pm	Trinity 16. Harvest Festival All Saints Braunston Followed by bring and share lunch in church. St Peter Brooks Harvest Festival Folowed by refreshments.
Mon	21 st		St Matthew
Sat	26 th	2-00pm	RSCM Singing day. St Andrew Kettering. Includes music for the Diocesan Festival.
Sun	27 th	11.00	Trinity 17: Harvest Festival St Peter and St Paul Langham
Tues	29 th	7.00pm	St Michael and All Angels Diocesan Festival Rehearsal: St Andrew Whissendine
Oct			
Thur	1 st	7.00pm	Diocesan Festival Rehearsal: St John Ryhall
Sun	4 th	12.00	All Saints Oakham Harvest Lunch: Victoria Hall
Thur	8 th	7.00	Diocesan Festival Rehearsal: All Saints Oakham
Sat	10 th	5.30pm	Diocesan Choral Festival Peterborough Cathedral

Team Service Patterns and Times

Church	Week	8am	¹ 9:00am ² 9:15am	¹ 10:30am ² 11:00am	4:00pm	6:00pm
Oakham	1,2,4	HC(T)		¹ HC		ES
	3	HC(T)		¹ FSB/FC*		
Langham	1					WWR
	2,4			² HC		
	3				C@4	
Braunston	1,3			² HC		
	2			² MA		
	4				C@4	
Brooke	1,3					ES
	2	HC(B)				
	4	HC				
Hambleton	2,4		² HC(T)			
Egleton	1,3		² HC(T)			
Whissendine	1,3,4			² HC		
	2	HC(B)		² FS		
Teigh	1		¹ MA			
	2		¹ HC(B)**			
	3					ES
	4		¹ HC(B)			
Ashwell	1					ES
	2		¹ HC(B)**			
	3			² FS		
	4			² HC		
Market Overton	1,4		¹ HC			
	2					ES
	3		¹ FS			

HC – Holy Communion (Common Worship Contemporary Language)

HC(T) – Holy Communion (Common Worship Traditional Language)

HC(B) – Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

FS/FSB – Family Service/Family Service with Baptism (not Communion)

C@4 – Church@4 (For all ages, with activities, simple worship & food)

MA/ES – Matins/Evensong

WWR – Word, Worship & Response (Contemporary worship)

* FSB even months / FC odd months with Baptism at 12:15pm

** at Teigh in neven months / at Ashwell in odd months

Fifth Sundays – usually Team Communion at one of the Churches (see the weekly pewsheet or website for details – www.oakhamteam.org.uk)